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Nimble and Quick 31

Pick and Chuse where You will.

Here is something to fit and please every Body.

CONTAINING

The Humours of the AGE.

B E I N G

Whimfical, Witty, Diverting, and Comical,

W I T H

Useful Remarks on the Virtues and Vices of
the Times.





Nimble and Quick.

I Never think of a wife till I am hungry, and then I look for a whore, in hopes she will bring me to a morsel of bread.

I love strong-beer twice in the year, that is summer and winter.

I hate lawyers and liars, because they breed wrangling and jangling.

I would be a soldier, was there all plunder and no fighting.

I love a clergyman that practises what he preaches, for otherwise we must mind what he says, and not what he does.

If ever I marry I will have the ugliest woman I can find, then I shall be sure to have her to myself.

Shew me a Poet, a painter, and a quaker, and I will shew you three liars.

Of all the men in the world, blind men walk the most upright : so they are the most charitable, for they never see their neighbours faults.

Of all people, I pity whores, for they hazard
soul and body for a bad living.

Was I a man in Power I'd build alms houses
for the rich, and maintain them at their own
cost.

The greatest folly in the world, is to love
the world.

In former days the world boasted of seven
wise men, but now every man is wise in his
own conceit ; yet, in my opinion if some are
wise, more are otherwise.

Of all callings I hate quack-doctors, for if
they do good, the world hears fast enough of
it.

The greatest enemies whores have, are the
French and Small-pox ; one spoils their faces,
and the other their constitution.

I hate riches for the danger that attends
them.

I would not have my throat cut for a bushel
of gold.

Ballad-fingers have the most honest trade in
the world for your money. It also is an antient
and honourable calling, for Homer also
was one,

Sailors are the bravest and merriest fellows in the world, for they drink and dance when



there is but an inch between them and their watery graves.

The astrologer is a wise man, he can tell future events: but not the man that cuckolds him, nor when.

It would puzzle a philosopher to give the preference to a Chimney-sweeper or a Tom-turdman, they are both such useful members of the community.

Tea and tobacco are pernicious weeds and grand thieves: they deserve hanging more than highwaymen, for they pick the pockets of the whole nation

There are five great rarities hard to find :
A black Swan, a Phoenix, a Unicorn, the Philosopher's Stone, and a Maid at sixteen.

If extortioners cannot enter the kingdom of heaven, where must usurers, tally-men, and pawn-brokers go ?

By cards and dice men are soon ruined, for gaming has brought many to the gallows.

Soldiers and butchers are very near relations, they both live by killing and slaughter.

I never see a taylor but he puts me in mind of a cabbage. Nor a miller or a weaver, but I think of a thief.

Actors and apes are the greatest mimicks ; it is hard to determine whether they are or are not rational.

Good old women and good small-beer are hard to be found, yet these are good in their kind.

What's the difference between ale-draper and linnen-draper ? Only this, one cheats you with froth, the other with cloth.

There is one abominable thing I cannot help reminding you off, that is, for neighbours, to go to law about trifles, and so rob their children.

A sober virtuous wife, boy is better than a vicious grey-headed old fool; so a living dog is better than a dead lion.

Number me the sands on the sea shore, and the stars in the sky, and I will number you the numberless faults of a lewd woman. Yet a virtuous woman is the pride of nature, and the glory of the universe; but where shall I find her.

Swearing and cursing is the language of hell, which people take care to learn before they go thither.

Beauty is the fairest flower in nature's garden; but who would doat on such a fading toy? yet I would oblige all young men to marry at the age of twenty one; marry handsome women for their own sake, homely women for charity's sake. I would constrain wealthy misers to marry poor women, rich maidens poor batchelors, purposely to bring the world on a level.

Could I dispose nature, hypocrites should have two faces, because like watermen, they look one way and row another,

If all mens faults were writ in their foreheads, what a seroll would appear!

To portion daughters and build ships are chargeable things, yet after all costs and pains they prove leaky vessels.

Had I three sons, if one of them was a dunce,



two should practice Law and Phyfic, and the other should be a Parson.

There are five things very wonderful : Swift Fame, which like a snow-ball, gathers as it goes. A Musket-shot, that kills before you hear the report. The Sight, that reaches the highest heavens in an instant. Thought, that traverses the globe in a moment. And Lightning, which kills the child in the womb, and hurts not the mother, and melts gold in a bag, without fingeing the canvass.

Some say, That England is the garden of the world ; but, as the King of France says, there is many a bitter weed in it. Others say, It is

the Paradise of Women, a Purgatory for servants, and a Hell for Horfes. We have the handsomeft women in the world, I must own, and we give them the greateft privileges, the honour of the wall, the third of our effects, and the like, yet they feldom requite us with any thing but a large pair of horns; and like the devil, the more you humour them, the worfe they are; give them an inch, and they will take an ell.

But there is no general rule without exception; what I speak is of the bad humours of men, one story is good till another is told; in the mean time give me leave to speak my thoughts: Those that are good husbands I believe make good wives: and if they are bad, there are fix of one, and half a dozen of the other. God mend us all!

*And thus I've finish'd what I first propos'd,
And if I have more or less of truth disclos'd,
Then what you like, excuse me for this me,
As needs makes old wives trot, and poets rhyme:
Therefore extend your halfpence if you please,
And I'll pray for you all my remaining days.*

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